NUMB. CLXIII.

The GUARDIAN.

——*miſerum eſt alienâ vivere quadrâ.* Juv.

Thurſday, September 16. 1713.

WHEN I am diſpoſed to give my ſelf a Day's Reſt, I order the Lion to be opened, and ſearch into that Magazine of Intelligence for ſuch Letters as are to my Purpoſe. The firſt I looked into comes to me from one who is Chaplain to a great Family. He treats himſelf, in the beginning of it, after ſuch a Manner, as I am perſuaded no Man of Senſe would treat him. Even the Lawyer and the Phyſician, to a Man of Quality, expect to be uſed like Gentlemen, and much more may any one of ſo ſuperior a Profeſſion. I am by no means for encouraging that Diſpute, whether the Chaplain or the Maſter of the Houſe be the better Man, and the more to be reſpected. The two Learned Authors, Doctor *Hicks*, and Mr. *Collier*, to whom I might add ſeveral others, are to be excuſed if they have carried the Point a little too high in Favour of the Chaplain, ſince in ſo corrupt an Age as that we live in, the Popular Opinion runs ſo far into the other Extream. The only Controverſie, between the Patron and the Chaplain, ought to be which ſhould promote the good Deſigns and Intereſts of each other moſt, and for my own part, I think it is the happieſt Circumſtance, in a great Eſtate or Title, that it qualifies a Man for chuſing, out of ſuch a learned and valuable Body of Men as that of the *Engliſh* Clergy, a Friend, a ſpiritual Guide, and a Companion. The Letter I have received, from one of this Order, is as follows.

Mr. GUARDIAN,

'I Hope you will not only indulge me in the Li-
'berty of two or three Queſtions, but alſo in
'the Solution of them.

'I have had the Honour, many Years, of being
'Chaplain to a noble Family, and of being account-
'ed the higheſt Servant in the Houſe, either out of
'Reſpect to my Cloth, or becauſe I lie in the up-
'permoſt Garret.

'Whilſt my old Lord lived, his Table was al-
'ways adorned with uſeful Learning and innocent
'Mirth, as well as cover'd with Plenty. I was
'not looked upon as a Piece of Furniture, fit only
'to ſanctifie and garniſh a Feaſt, but treated as a
'Gentleman, and generally deſired to fill up the
'Converſation an Hour after I had done my Duty.
'But now my young Lord is come to the Eſtate,
'I find I am looked upon as a *Cenſor Morum*, an
'Obſtacle to Mirth and Talk, and ſuffered to retire
'conſtantly, with *Proſperity to the Church* in my
'Mouth. I declare ſolemnly, Sir, that I have heard
'nothing, from all the fine Gentlemen who viſit us,
'more remarkable, for half a Year, than that one
'young Lord was ſeven times drunk at *Genoa*, and a-
'nother had an Affair with a famous Courteſan at *Ve-
'nice*. I have lately taken the Liberty to ſtay three
'or four Rounds beyond the Church, to ſee what
'Topicks of Diſcourſe they went upon, but, to
'my great Surpriſe, have hardly heard a Word all
'the time beſides the Toaſts. Then they all ſtare
'full in my Face, and ſhew all the Actions of
'Uneaſineſs till I am gone. Immediately upon
'my Departure, to uſe the Words in an old Co-
'medy, *I find by the Noiſe they make, that they
'had a mind to be private.* I am at a Loſs to ima-
'gine what Converſation they have among one a-
'nother, which I may not be preſent at, ſince I
'love innocent Mirth as much as any of them, and
'am

(Price Two Pence.)

‘ am ſhocked with no Freedoms whatſoever, which ‘ are conſiſtent with Chriſtianity. I have, with ‘ much ado, maintained my Poſt hitherto at the ‘ Diſſert, and every Day eat Tart in the Face of ‘ my Patron, but how long I ſhall be inveſted with ‘ this Privilege I do not know. For the Servants, ‘ who do not ſee me ſupported as I was in my old ‘ Lord's time, begin to bruſh very familiarly by me, ‘ and thruſt aſide my Chair, when they ſet the ‘ Sweetmeats on the Table. I have been born and ‘ educated a Gentleman, and deſire you will make ‘ the Publick ſenſible, that the Chriſtian Prieſthood ‘ was never thought in any Age or Country to de- ‘ baſe the Man who is a Member of it. Among ‘ the great Services which your uſeful Papers daily ‘ do to Religion, this perhaps will not be the leaſt, ‘ and will lay a very great Obligation on your un- ‘ known Servant.

G. W.

Venerable NESTOR,

‘I Was very much pleaſed with your Paper of ‘ the 7th Inſtant, in which you recommend the ‘ Study of uſeful Knowledge to Women of Qua- ‘ lity or Fortune. I have ſince that met with a ‘ very elegant Poem, written by the famous Sir *Tho- ‘ mas More*; it is inſcribed to a Friend of his, who ‘ was then ſeeking out a Wife; he adviſes him ‘ on that Occaſion to overlook Wealth and ‘ Beauty, and if he deſires a happy Life, to join ‘ himſelf with a Woman of Virtue and Know- ‘ ledge. His Words on this laſt Head are as fol- ‘ low.

Proculque ſtulta ſit
Parvis labellulis
Semper Loquacitas,
Proculque Ruſticum
Semper Silentium.
Sit illa vel modò
Inſtructa literis,
Vel talis ut modò
Sit apta literis.
Felix, quibus bene
Priſcis ab omnibus
Poſſit libellulis
Vitam beantia
Haurire dogmata.
Armata cum quibus
Nec illa proſperis
Superba turgeat,
Nec illa turbidis
Miſella lugeat
Proſtrata caſibus.
Jucunda ſic erit
Semper nec unquam erit
Gravis, moleſtave

Vitæ comes tuæ
Quæ docta parvulos
Docebit & tuos
Cum lacte literas
Olim nepotulos.
Jam te juvaverit
Viros relinquere,
Doctæque conjugis
Sinu quieſcere,
Dum grata te fovet.
Manuque mobili
Dum plectra perſonat
Et voce (quâ nec eſt
Progne ſororculæ
Tuæ ſuavior)
Amæna cantilat
Apollo quæ velit
Andire carmina.
Jam te juvaverit
Sermone blandulo,
Docto tamen, dies
Nocteſque ducere.
Notare verbula

Mellita maximis
Non abſque gratiis
Ab ore melleo
Semper fluentia,
Quibus coerceat
Si quando te levet
Inane Gaudium,
Quibus levaverit
Si quando deprimat
Te-mœror anxius.
Certabit in quibus
Summa eloquentia
Jam cum omnium gravi
Rerum Scientia.
Talem olim ego putem
Et vatis Orphei
Fuiſſe conjugem,
Nec unquam ab inferis
Curaſſet improbo

Labore fœminam
Referre Ruſticam.
Talemque credimus
Naſonis inclitam,
Quæ vel patrem queat
Æquare carmine
Fuiſſe filiam.
Talemque ſuſpicor
(Qua nulla charior
Unquam fuit patri
Quo nemo doctior)
Fuiſſe Tulliam:
Taliſque quæ tulit
Gracchos duos, fuit
Quæ quos tulit, bonis
Inſtruxit artibus.
Nec profuit minus
Magiſtra quam parens.

The Senſe of this elegant Deſcription is as fol- lows,

‘ May you meet with a Wife who is not always ‘ ſtupidly Silent, nor always prating Nonſenſe! ‘ May ſhe be *Learned*, if poſſible, or at leaſt capa- ‘ ble of being made ſo! A Woman thus accom- ‘ pliſhed will be always drawing Sentences and ‘ Maxims of Vertue out of the beſt Authors of An- ‘ tiquity. She will be *Herſelf* in all Changes of ‘ Fortune, neither blown up in Proſperity, nor ‘ broken with Adverſity. You will find in her an ‘ Even cheerful good-humoured Friend, and an A- ‘ greeable Companion for Life. She will infuſe ‘ Knowledge into your Children with their Milk, ‘ and from their Infancy train them up to Wiſdom. ‘ Whatever Company you are engaged in you will ‘ long to be at Home, and retire with Delight ‘ from the Society of *Men*, into the Boſom of ‘ one who is ſo dear, ſo knowing and ſo amia- ‘ ble. If ſhe touches her Lute, or Sings to it ‘ any of her own Compoſitions, her Voice will ‘ ſooth you in your Solitudes, and ſound more ‘ ſweetly in your Ear than that of the Nightingale. ‘ You will waſte with Pleaſure whole Days and ‘ Nights in her Converſation, and be ever finding ‘ out new Beauties in her Diſcourſe. She will ‘ keep your Mind in perpetual Serenity, reſtrain its ‘ Mirth from being diſſolute, and prevent its Me- ‘ lancholy from being painful.

‘ Such was doubtleſs the Wife of *Orpheus*, for who ‘ would have undergone what he did to have re- ‘ covered a fooliſh Bride? Such was the Daughter of ‘ *Ovid*, who was his Rival in Poetry. Such was *Tullia*, ‘ as ſhe is celebrated by the moſt learned and the ‘ moſt fond of Fathers. And ſuch was the Mother ‘ of the two *Gracchi*, who is no leſs famous for ‘ having been their Inſtructer than their Parent.

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